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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of this application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

☐ This communication is responsive to 108 20-17

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 108 20-17

☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable as formal drawings.

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:

☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE FOR SUBMITTING NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS, OR A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION. This three-month period for complying with the REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL is extendable under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this notice should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for the Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

In accordance with a telephone conversation on February 18, 2004 with Mr. Crawford for the applicant, the following changes were agreed upon to place the case in condition for allowance.

Claim 18 has been cancelled.

In claim 10, line 2, after "bronze" (first occurrence) the phrase --in a first method step, and-- has been inserted. Further in line 2, the phrase "at least one of an" has been deleted and the word --a-- has been substituted therefor. In the last line, "solvent." has been deleted and the phrase --solvent in a second method step.-- has been substituted therefor.

In claim 11, line 3, "of" has been deleted.

In claim 14, line 1, the phrase "at least one solvent" has been deleted.

In claim 15, line 1, the phrase "at least one solvent" has been deleted. In line 3, "ester" has been changed to --ether--.

In line 4, "diisopropy," has been changed to --diisopropyl--. In the last line, the phrase "or a mixture of these substances is used as a solvent" has been deleted and the phrase --and mixtures thereof-- has been substituted therefor.

In claim 17, line 2, "reclaimed" has been changed to --recovered--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for

allowance:

Schwindeman et al. (U.S. Patent 5,486,343) discloses a process for the preparation of lithium amide comprising forming lithium bronze by introducing ammonia into a dispersion containing one equivalent of lithium in a liquid hydrocarbon solvent at a temperature of up to 40°C, then after the lithium bronze is formed, heating the reaction mixture to 50 to 80°C for 2 to 4 hours to decompose the lithium bronze and form a suspension of lithium amide in the solvent from which suspension the lithium amide is recovered. (See the Abstract and column 1 line 35 to column 2 line 50.) There is no teaching, disclosure or suggestion in Schwindeman et al. to react the lithium bronze which is formed in the process with a 1,3-diene or an arylolefin.

Nor would there be any motivation from the prior art to do so. Applicant's specification states on page 3, lines 20-26 that the advantage of the method in accordance with the invention is that the reaction can be carried out at ambient temperature, the product is of greater purity, no hydrogen is formed, and the ammonia, which is free of hydrogen, can be recovered.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Serial No. 10/091,383

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Art Unit 1754

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wayne A. Langel whose telephone number is (571) 272-1353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman, can be reached on (571) 272-1358. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WAL:cdc

February 18, 2004

Wayne A. Langel
WAYNE A. LANGEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER